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*House Meets at 9:00 a.m. for Legislative Business*

*Anticipated Floor Action:*

**H.R. 1487—National Monument NEPA Compliance Act**  
**Motions to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 1501 (Consequences for Juvenile Offenders Act)**



**H.R. 1487—National Monument NEPA Compliance Act**

**Floor Situation:** The House will consider H.R. 1487 as its first order of business today. On Tuesday, September 21, the Rules Committee granted an open rule providing one hour of general debate, equally divided between the chairman and ranking minority member of the Resources Committee. The rule makes in order a committee amendment in the nature of a substitute as base text and accords priority in recognition to members who have their amendments pre-printed in the *Congressional Record*. The chairman of the Committee of the Whole may postpone votes and reduce the voting time on a postponed vote to five minutes, so long as it follows a regular 15-minute vote. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit, with or without instructions.

**Summary:** H.R. 1127 amends the 1906 Antiquities Act to require the president to solicit public participation and comments when considering and preparing a proposal to declare a national monument “to the extent consistent with the protection of historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic or scientific interest located on the public lands to be designated.” In addition, the bill requires the president to consult with the governor and congressional delegation of the state in which the lands in question are located at least 60 days before declaring a national monument. If the president determines that a national monument or resource is in jeopardy while the designation process is underway, he may ask the Interior Secretary to conduct a segregation or withdrawal under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) while the public proceedings continue on the monument or land.

CBO estimates that enactment of H.R. 1487 will have no significant effect on the federal budget. The bill was introduced by Mr. Hansen *et al.* and was reported by the Resources Committee by voice vote on June 30, 1999.

**Views:** The Republican leadership supports passage of H.R. 1487. The Clinton Administration strongly opposes the bill and has threatened to veto it.

**Amendments:** At press time, *Legislative Digest* was unaware of any amendments to H.R. 1487.

**Additional Information:** See *Legislative Digest*, Vol. XXVIII, #26, September 17, 1999.



## **Motions to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 1501 (Consequences for Juvenile Offenders Act)**

**Floor Situation:** Sometime today, the House will consider two motions by Mr. Doolittle and Ms. Lofgren—and also vote on a motion by Ms. McCarthy that was considered yesterday—to instruct conferees on H.R. 1501. Such motions may be offered as a privileged matter after a measure has been in conference for 20 days; each is debatable for one hour. Motions to instruct are non-binding (i.e., they state the House’s opinion on a matter but do not *require* any particular action from House conferees).

**Summary:** The House will vote on the following measure that was considered yesterday but for which a recorded vote was postponed:

- \* The **McCarthy** motion instructs conferees on H.R. 1501 to recommend a conference substitute that (1) includes a loophole-free system to ensure that no criminals or other prohibited purchases (e.g., murderers, rapists, child molesters, fugitives from justice, undocumented aliens, stalkers, and batterers) obtain firearms from non-licensed persons and federally licensed firearms dealers at gun shows, (2) does not include provisions that weaken current gun safety law, and (3) includes provisions that aid in enforcing current laws against criminals who use guns.

The **Doolittle** motion instructs conferees on H.R. 1501 to recommend a conference substitute that (1) recognizes that the primary cause of youth violence in America is depraved hearts, not inanimate weapons, (2) recognizes that the Second Amendment protects the individual right of American citizens to keep and bear arms, and (3) does not impose unconstitutional restrictions on Second Amendment rights.

The **Lofgren** motion instructs conferees on H.R. 1501 to recommend a conference substitute that (1) requires unlicensed dealers at gun shows to conduct background checks, (2) bans the juvenile possession of assault weapons, (3) requires that child safety locks be sold with every handgun, and (4) includes “Brady Law” restrictions for minors.

H.R. 1501 passed the House by a vote of 287-139 on June 16, 1999; the Senate passed a similar measure (S. 254) by a vote of 73-25 on May 20, 1999. The House appointed conferees on July 30.

**Additional Information:** See *Legislative Digest*, Vol. XXVIII, #17, June 11, 1999.

